

Ershad offers early elections

DHAKA (AP) — President Hussain Muhammad Ershad offered Saturday to hold early elections in a nationwide speech a day after he declared a state of emergency to quell growing anti-government unrest. "My government has no objection to arrange a new election earlier than the schedule if we all unitedly agree to it," General Ershad said, speaking in Bengali over state-run radio and television. Gen. Ershad did not specify what the elections would be for, but broadly hinted that they would elect a new parliament. "If the people vote for a change of the government, I will not hesitate to happily hand over power to the victorious party," Gen. Ershad said. "If the people give a mandate for changing the form of government, (the opposition can) come and amend the constitution in the parliament." The offer came the day after Gen. Ershad imposed a state of emergency, deploying riot police and paramilitary forces throughout the capital as another anti-government strike loomed. (See page 8). Gen. Ershad also defended his decision to impose the state of emergency.

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Tunisian premier visits Morocco

IFRANE (API) — Tunisia's new prime minister, Hedi Baccouche, arrived in this mountain residence of King Hassan II Saturday to confer on North African problems, particularly on Morocco's conflict with Algeria over the Western Saharan. Mr. Baccouche flew directly from Tunis to Fez airport. He was received by Moroccan Prime Minister Azzedine Laraki, who accompanied him to the king's palace in the nearby Atlas mountains. Mr. Baccouche played a leading role in the Nov. 7 ouster of President Habib Bourguiba. He is the constitutionally designated successor to Tunisia's new leader, President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali, and is widely regarded as the dominant personality of Mr. Ibn Ali's government. On Wednesday, Mr. Baccouche flew to Algiers — his first trip abroad since the take-over — to confer with Algerian President Chadli Benjedid. A source at the Tunisian embassy in Rabat told AP both trips were in the framework of Tunisia's decision to give priority to its relations with its neighbours and to lend its good offices to efforts to resolve the Western Saharan conflict. (See page 2).

King sends good wishes to Yugoslavia

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein sent a cable of good wishes on Saturday to Yugoslav resident Lazar Mojovic congratulating him on the occasion of his country's Independence Day. In his cable, the King wished the Yugoslav leader continuing good health and the Yugoslav people further progress and prosperity.

Cabinet approves 88 draft budget

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet on Saturday approved the government's draft budget for 1988. During a session chaired by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, the cabinet decided to send the draft to Parliament for approval. The cabinet also approved an Arab agreement for trade arbitration.

Princess Basma attends Cairo meeting

AIRO (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, chairwoman of the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund, attended the opening session on Saturday of the Arab Council for Childhood Development board of trustees. Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd bin Zaid attended the opening session. The council's president, Prince Talal Ibn Abdul Aziz, expressed hope that the council would reach decisions aimed at approving and raising the standard of services offered to Arab children everywhere. Among the topics to be discussed is the council's working plan for the next year. The council comprises 34 prominent Arab figures. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Faisal is the honorary president of the council which was founded in Amman on April 12, 1987.

Aramco donates \$111,000 to W. Bank and Gaza

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Daud received a cheque for \$111,000 on Saturday from the representative of the Arab American Oil Company (Aramco) in Amman, Jamal Sarayreh, as contribution from the company to a number of charitable societies and institutions in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Lebanese guerrillas said to have Stingers

SHARJAH (R) — Pro-Iranian guerrillas in South Lebanon have obtained U.S.-made Stinger missiles from Afghan rebels, a newspaper reported on Saturday. Al Khaleej daily said the guerrillas purchased a number of the shoulder-fired, heat-seeking anti-aircraft missiles. "A Lebanese resistance group in South Lebanon used its ties with Iran to buy Stingers from the Afghan rebels," it quoted sources close to the guerrillas as saying.

Zambia rules out ties with Israel

RIVADH (R) — Zambian leader Kenneth Kaunda said his country would not recognise Israel. In an interview published on Saturday with the Saudi newspaper Okaz, he said there was no difference between Israel and the racist regime of South Africa. He said Zambia did not want relations with Israel as long as it refused to pull out of the occupied Arab territories.

Two Kuwaitis tried for subversion

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's state security court on Saturday adjourned verdicts on two youths being tried on charges of subversion. Abdul Aziz Abbas Al Shan, 18, and Haidar Abdullah Al Nakhat, 17, both Kuwaitis, were charged with membership of an illegal group seeking to overthrow the state by force and insulting the emir in a public place by circulating subversive leaflets. Nakhat was still at large, the court was told. After hearing the charges, the court went into closed session and later adjourned verdicts until Dec. 5.

Senate voices total satisfaction with results of Amman summit and praises His Majesty

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Upper House of Parliament (Senate) on Saturday expressed appreciation, pride and support for His Majesty King Hussein's efforts at unifying Arab ranks and his role in making the Nov. 8-11 extraordinary Arab summit in Amman a resounding success.

In a cable they sent to King Hussein on Saturday, the senators said His Majesty's firm belief in the principles of the Great Arab Revolt was the basis for calling the summit to convene and for his follow-up efforts to achieve pan-Arab reconciliation and solidarity.

The cable was sent to the King immediately after the Senate met in its first ordinary session following the summit's conclusion less than three weeks ago. Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi sent a cable congratulating the King on the

results of the Amman summit on Nov. 13.

The cable was called for by the Senate members after they listened to 10 speeches by senators on the summit's results and resolutions. The speeches hailed the nationalistic and historic role played by King Hussein in the summit and congratulated the Arab leaders for making the conference a resounding success.

Senators also paid tribute for the efforts of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who was head of Jordan's delegation to the

summit, and to Prime Minister Zaid Rifai.

"The results of the Arab summit of accord and harmony will remain a landmark in the march towards realising pan-Arab solidarity and joint work," said the Senate in its cable to the King.

General satisfaction, enthusiasm and jubilation among senators over the summit's success was evident in their speeches which covered wide-ranging topics related to the summit, including Jordan's pre-summit preparations, Arab unity achieved at the meeting and the firm resolutions adopted by the Arab leaders regarding the Iran-Iraq war and the situation in the Gulf, the Middle East problem, the situation in war-torn Lebanon and relations between Arab countries and Egypt.

The atmosphere of enthusiasm over the summit's outcome was displayed in Saturday's Senate

(Continued on page 3)

Tension remains high in Lebanon amid reports of Israeli build-up

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Tension remained high in South Lebanon for the third day on Saturday amid a full alert among Palestinian fighters, and civilians spent a second day in shelter in anticipation of Israeli retaliation for Wednesday's daring Palestinian commando attack that killed six Israeli soldiers and wounded seven others.

Reports reaching here from the south indicated that Israel could possibly launch a sweeping incursion into South Lebanon villages suspected of helping Palestinian and Lebanese fighters mounting resistance attacks against Israeli soldiers as well as the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA). The SLA and more than 1,000 regular Israeli soldiers patrol an area designated by Israel as a "security zone" in South Lebanon as a buffer against guerrilla attacks across the border.

Palestinian fighters kept a constant vigil over the skies with their anti-aircraft guns on the ready, while Israeli air raids continued. "A Lebanese resistance group in South Lebanon used its ties with Iran to buy Stingers from the Afghan rebels," it quoted sources close to the guerrillas as saying.

The Israeli prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, blamed Syria for the raid.

In Damascus, the Syrian-backed Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC), led by Ahmad Jibril, claimed responsibility for the attack. It was the first in

which airborne guerrillas caused casualties in Israel.

Mr. Shamir, a right-winger, hinted that Israel might retaliate telling Israeli Television's Arabic news on Friday night:

"Israel will address all... attacks on her citizens, her soldiers and her territory."

A preliminary investigation by the Israeli army revealed that soldiers in the camp attacked had for 20 minutes ignored a military alert issued when the hang-glider was spotted flying towards the Israeli border.

The army found that the soldiers did not respond to the alert at all, unlike the surrounding towns and collective farms, which immediately threw up full defences and sent residents to underground shelters.

Chief of Staff General Dan Shomron said a soldier guarding the army camp outside the northern town of Kiryat Shmona ran away when the attacker threw a grenade at him.

Israeli newspapers reflected a widespread sense of shock that such an attack could take place despite its elaborate defences and heavily-patrolled "security zone."

Damascus said on Saturday that France had formally thanked it for its role when Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond telephoned his Syrian counterpart Farouq Al Sharra.

The Syrian News Agency (SANA) said Mr. Raimond conveyed the French government's thanks and gratitude for the efforts Syria has exerted to secure freedom for the two French hostages.

Diplomats said the two French hostages were originally due to be

(Continued on page 3)

Iraq reports heavy air raids on Iranian troop concentrations

BAHRAM (Agencies) — Iraq said its military aircraft blasted Iranian troop positions and concentrations along the northern front Saturday, and threatened "mass extermination" of Iranian fighters if they launch a long-awaited major offensive.

The Iraqi military command said in a communiqué that its warplanes flew 75 combat missions against Iranian "troop gatherings in the northern sector inflicting heavy losses on enemy men, equipment and weaponry."

Quoting an unnamed military spokesman, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said Iraqi helicopters launched 36 strikes "on enemy troop gatherings, weapons positions and vehicles in the northern sector."

The command did not give details of fighting in the northern mountainous region of the 1,180-kilometre-long front.

But the high number of aircraft sorties reported Saturday reflected the intensity of combat in the region.

Iran over the last 10 days has reported heavy clashes in the

northern front around the resort of Hajji Omran and east of the city of Sulaimaniyah in the mountainous Kurdish-inhabited region.

An Iranian communiqué last Wednesday claimed Iranian forces had killed or wounded 4,000 Iraqis since Nov. 20. Iraq has said thousands of Iranians killed.

The northern front is active with dissidents on both sides. Kurdish guerrillas fighting the Baghdad government have joined Iranian forces in combat in the region.

Iraq-backed Iranian guerrillas of the Mujahideen-e-Khalq dissident group reported last Tuesday their "most significant victory" this year. They claimed to have assaulted Iranian troop bases, killing or wounding more than 3,000 soldiers.

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A high-ranking administration

Zia and Goria receive messages from King

ISLAMABAD (Petra) — Pakistani President Zia Ul Haq on Saturday received a message from His Majesty King Hussein dealing with the positive outcome of the recent extraordinary Arab summit meeting held in Amman.

The message was delivered by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, who arrived in Pakistan for the mission on Friday evening on the first leg of a tour that will take him to other Asian countries on similar missions.

Mr. Masri also conveyed greetings from King Hussein to the Pakistani president, who paid tribute to the outcome of the Amman summit and voiced appreciation of King Hussein's efforts in closing Arab ranks.

The meeting was in the presence of Jordan's Ambassador to Pakistan Fakhru Abu Taleb.

In Rome, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem met on Friday evening with Italian Prime Minister Giovanni Goria and Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti as well as Cardinal Cassaroli, the Vatican's foreign minister.

Mr. Qasem conveyed to the Italian and Vatican leaders messages from King Hussein dealing with the outcome of the Amman summit.

Mr. Qasem, who has similar missions in Paris, Bonn and London, outlined King Hussein's continued efforts for closing Arab ranks and for serving the cause of peace in the Middle East.

Mr. Qasem also presented the Arab Nation's views with regard to the call for an international conference on the Middle East.

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King honours Rifai for his loyalty and dedicated service to Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein on Saturday conferred on Prime Minister Zaid Rifai the Al Nahda Medal of the Most Distinguished Order in recognition of "his loyalty and his devotion to serving Jordan and his keenness on safeguarding the national interests."

The King conveyed to Mr. Rifai his decision in a message in which he paid tribute to the prime minister who he said "worked day and night for the sake of fulfilling the Kingdom's higher aspirations and continuing the building process on the firmest foundations and in true compliance with the principles of the Great Arab Revolt and its objectives and goals which aim to serve the Arab Nation to which Jordan belongs."

Referring to the Nov. 8-11 extraordinary Arab summit meeting in Amman, King Hussein said: "God has bestowed on us His blessings and the Arab Nation honoured us by sending its leaders to meet in Amman to achieve agreement and consensus because they realised that we in Jordan have opted to place Arab



national interests above all other considerations in word and deed."

"The Arab Nation has discovered that we have no other objective and aim except to unify Arab ranks so that this nation can be stronger and forge ahead with greater determination and able to fulfil and serve the national interests of the coming generation," King Hussein said.

"We are pleased to honour you as our prime minister, trusted to

help crystallise our ambitions and aspirations, and capable to help Jordan become an exemplary state and a strong pillar in the Great Arab edifice," King Hussein said in his message to Mr. Rifai.

The King described Mr. Rifai as a dear life-long friend and a devoted companion along the march for construction and said that Mr. Rifai would continue to enjoy his absolute confidence, affection and appreciation.

New session of Euro-Arab dialogue opens today

AMMAN (J.T.) — A two-day session of Euro-Arab Dialogue opens today at the Plaza Hotel under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

The session is the third to be organised by the Arab Thought Forum (ATF) and is designed to discuss major regional issues, an ATF press release in Amman said.

The release said the meeting would be addressed by Prince Hassan, who heads the Arab side to the meeting, and the first session would be devoted to the Gulf conflict.

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This session will also focus on future prospects of relations between Europe and the Arab

world.

A total of 42 participants of whom 26 are Arab intellectuals from Jordan, Egypt, Kuwait, Lebanon, Iraq and Syria will take part.

The second session present a deep insight into the Gulf conflict, according to the press release.

On the second day of the meeting, it said, will be devoted to Euro-Arab relations in the past and in the present and in which European and Arab intellectuals would be speaking.

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world.

The underground Revolutionary Justice Organisation, which released the two hostages, described Mr. Stephane as a Paris government envoy.

Mr. Stephane is identified in a new hook on French ties with Iran, entitled "The Threat" and written by journalist Pierre Pean, as the alias of a former intelligence agent and close associate of Interior Minister Charles Pasqua.

The two released hostages arrived in Paris Saturday aboard a special jet and were welcomed home by Premier Chirac.

The warm reception for Mr. Normandin and Mr. Auque was broadcast live by Antenne 2.

Meanwhile, the respected newspaper Le Monde, quoting good sources, said in its edition

(Continued on page 3)

U.N. committee condemns Iran's human rights abuses

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — A key U.N. committee has expressed grave concern over widespread reports of human-rights abuses, torture and mass executions in Iran.

It was the third consecutive year that the Committee on Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Affairs has expressed such concerns and urged Iran to respect human rights. The committee's resolution will be considered later by the U.N. General Assembly.

The committee adopted its measure by a vote of 58-22 with 42 abstentions. Last year's vote was 53-37 with 42 abstentions.

The vote was hailed by Iranian dissidents opposed to the government of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and by the Bahai International Community whose members have been persecuted in Iran.

"The decisive condemnation of the Khomeini regime demonstrates that the world will not tolerate Khomeini's Hitler-like fascism," said Ali Safavi, press spokesman for the People's Mujahedin of Iran in Washington.

"Throughout the international community, Khomeini's name is synonymous with repression, torture and belligerence," he said in a telephone statement.

The solution to both the Iran-Iraq war and murder in Iran, he said, is overthrow of the

Khomeini government.

Paul Ojermak, Bahai representative at the United Nations, called the vote a great comfort to the Bahais of Iran.

"International support is the only means of security for 300,000 Bahais in Iran," he said. "Resolutions like this tell the Iranian government it cannot abuse its Bahai citizens with impunity."

Iranian dissidents told a U.N. news conference Wednesday that at least 70,000 people have been executed in Iran this year, compared with 50,000 in 1986. They said 47,000 people have been arrested this year on political charges and that 140,000 political prisoners are in jail.

A dissident who escaped from five years in prison claimed he was tortured and said fanatic guards drained the blood of one cellmate, amputated the toes of another and gouged out the eyes of doomed men.

The resolution expressed deep concern about numerous and detailed allegations of grave human-rights violations, including torture, arbitrary and illegal arrest and detention, denial of fair trial and denial of freedom of thought.

Qadhafi: No peace until aid to Chad is stopped

PARIS (R) — Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qadhafi has warned there could be no lasting peace in Chad until France and the United States stopped aiding the central African country.

Col. Qadhafi, speaking in a live television interview from Tripoli, denied reports that his troops were preparing a new offensive against the Chadian government of President Hissene Habre.

Chad, which earlier this year ended Libyan occupation of its northern desert region, said on Tuesday it had clashed with Libyan forces trying to re-enter Chadian territory from Sudan.

It was the first reported skirmish since Chad and Libya agreed to a ceasefire on Sept. 11 and followed Chadian statements warning of new fighting.

"Libya is now inside its own international frontiers and wants a complete end to this war between brothers," said Col. Qadhafi, whose troops still control a disputed border region known as the Aouzou Strip.

"Without the departure of the French and Americans there can be no national reconciliation, there can be no peace," Col. Qadhafi added.

France has more than 1,000 troops stationed in its former central African colony while the United States has provided arms and other military equipment to Mr. Habre's government.

Mr. Habre has claimed Libya

has formed a 6,000-man Arab mercenary force to carry out a war against Chad and all of Africa according to a published report Friday.

Mr. Habre, in an interview in the Ivorian weekly Ivoire Dimanche, said the force already was occupying bases in Sudan and Niger.

He said the force was made up of Druze militiamen from Lebanon, Palestinians from various PLO factions, Syrians, pilots from Algeria and mercenaries from both North and South Yemen.

"We have informed... African leaders of the Libyan aggression undertaken by a fundamentally racist and expansionist political philosophy," Mr. Habre said.

"We appreciate the increasing awareness in Africa of the Chad-Libya war which is in the process of taking on other dimensions with the racial overtones certain Arab countries and Qadhafi want to give it," he said.

Algeria has denied it sent pilots to fly Libyan aircraft.

Mr. Habre said Libya was operating a military base with a 3,000-metre airstrip in neighbouring Niger which threatened Chadian and Nigerian security.

He said the base was manned by Druze, Palestinian and Syrian mercenaries.

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Home news

Queen tours health facilities in Maan

AAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor on Saturday visited a government hospital, where she inspected its facilities and met with patients to hear their views about the hospital's services.

Accompanied by Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh, the Queen met with the director of the Health Department in Maan Governorate and the director and staff of the hospital to hear their views on the conditions of the hospital and the efforts they are making to improve the quality of services. Dr. Hamzeh spoke about the general health conditions in Maan Governorate and the services offered by the ministry through its local health centres.

Arab transport ministers end talks in Tunis

UNIS (Petra) — The third meeting of the Council of Arab Ministers of Transport ended on Saturday with a decision to hold the council's next session in 1988.

Minister of Transport Ahmad Dakhqan, who represented Jordan at the meeting, said that the council decided that all facilities of Arab seaports and airports will be provided for Iraq's use without extra charge, in order to help in the war effort against Iran. The council called for safeguarding freedom of international shipping in the Gulf waterways.

Jordan, Iraq to boost border cooperation

AFAQ (J.T.) — An Iraqi delegation on Saturday wound up a two-day visit to Jordan by signing a statement that the Iraqi team's visit to Jordan was designed to enhance bilateral cooperation, mainly with regard to border issues.

Mafraq Governor Fayez Abbasi signed for Jordan, while Iman Ghidan, governor of Irbid in Iraq, signed for his country at a ceremony held at the Mafraq governor's house, attended by senior police officers and the commander of the border police force.

The protocol, signed in 1984, provides for continued consultations by officials from both sides to bolster cooperation in dealing with common border issues.

Haj Hassan opens national data centre

MMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Hamed Al Haj Hassan on Saturday opened a national data centre providing information on the economic and social development of Jordan. The centre has four computers at its disposal to the private and public sectors and will be coordinating its work with similar units at the Ministry of Planning and other at the Department of Statistics, according to the minister.

Hindawi reviews new education plans in Tafileh

AFILEH (Petra) — The Ministry of Education is currently reassessing the educational process in the country, paying particular attention to improvement in teaching conditions. Minister of Education Thourouq Hindawi said on Saturday.

Speaking at a meeting for educational departments and teachers in the Tafileh region, Mr. Hindawi also said that his ministry is currently planning to set up technical centres at a number of schools around the country, offering practical training courses to complement the theoretical courses offered at schools.

The minister said that ministry officials are also revising plans for allowing schools to organise trips, with the purpose of giving children opportunities to visit tourist sites and industrial and economic projects in the country.

Mr. Hindawi toured Hasa and Jurf Al Dararawi, where he met with officials and discussed educational problems. In Tafileh itself, the minister opened a new vocational school, built at a cost of JD 1.5 million.

Jordan, Spain to discuss parliamentary relations

MMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian parliamentary delegation will be on an official visit to Spain on Tuesday. The delegation will be headed by King Juan Carlos and members of the Spanish senate, according to an official announcement on Saturday.

Marriott boosts tourism again

MMAN — The Amman Marriott Hotel, in coordination with the Tourism and Travel Bureau, is helping to promote tourism in Jordan.

The first group of Canadian

Symposium addresses increasingly dangerous problem of road accidents

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day symposium on the prevention of road accidents opened here on Saturday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Interior Minister Rajai Dajani, who deputised for Prince Hassan at the meeting, welcomed the participants and said that Jordan hoped the symposium would come up with resolutions and proposals for measures to reduce the number of road accidents in the Kingdom.

"Road accidents have become an increasingly dangerous phenomenon, threatening human lives and causing severe damage to economic and social development," the minister said.

Statistics on road accidents show that they are responsible for the largest number of deaths, far exceeding the number of victims of natural disasters and wars, Mr. Dajani pointed out.

He said that in one Arab country, the number of accidents during the past year totalled 20,000, including 4,200 deaths and 25,600 injuries.

Mr. Dajani added that these accidents are estimated to cost JD 45 million in economic losses.

Zuhair Malhas, president of the Jordanian Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents (JSRPA), also addressed the opening session and outlined the society's efforts, in cooperation with the Public Security Department (PSD), to reduce road accidents in the Kingdom.

Dr. Malhas said that this symposium is the first of its kind because it covers road accidents in the Arab World in general and will focus attention on ways to end the carnage on the roads throughout the Arab World.

Acting PSD Director Major General Sami Al Saket made a speech in which he noted that Jordan has suffered for years as a result of road problems and the growing number of accidents.

"We are encouraged that this symposium is being held in Jordan following a successful Arab summit meeting during which the Arab leaders agreed on bolstering their countries' cooperation in all fields, including cooperation in safeguarding human lives by stemming the dangers on the roads," Maj.-Gen. Saket said.

He added that the PSD has made serious efforts and introduced numerous measures for tightening control over the roads, in addition to contributing to legislation and regulations aimed at reducing road accidents.

Dr. Rawhi Al Sharif told the meeting that the JSRPA has set up a preparatory committee, with the representation of various ministries and the PSD, in order to assist the symposium participants in dealing with the various working papers on different aspects of the road accidents problem.

According to the organisers, 12 Arab countries are represented at the meeting, which will discuss a total of 24 working papers.

Following the opening session, which was attended by a number of Cabinet ministers, PSD and civil defence officers and representatives of government departments, the participants began their first working session, which included a discussion of a paper on Jordan's experiment in spreading awareness among members of the public in matters concerning traffic and road accidents.

The paper by Dr. Sharif and Dr. Ahmad Al Faqih of the University of Jordan and Major Tawfiq Al Juneidi from the PSD also called for the information media to provide guidance to the public on these matters.

A second paper on traffic rules was presented by Dr. Mahmoud Al Bustan from Kuwait University. The paper reviewed the effect of traffic on the lives of individuals and societies, with particular attention to school children who are most vulnerable to road accidents.

A third paper by the mufti (religious judge) in Jordan touched on Islamic ethics in relation to road accidents.

In the second working session of this symposium held at the Royal Cultural Centre, the participants discussed a working paper dealing with Jordan's experiments on road engineering. The paper tackled the construction and maintenance of roads in the Kingdom, as well as the efforts of the Ministry of Public Works, the Greater Amman Municipality, the Ministry of Interior and the PSD towards reducing road accidents.

The paper recommended that a higher council on safety on the roads be established to deal directly with all parties and organisations dealing with road problems.

The participants also discussed a paper on road signs by Dr. Mohammad Shaker from the ministry of transport in Egypt, another on technical specifications of roads by Dr. Fathi Judeh from Egypt and a third by Dr. Mohammad Aqrabi from Iraq, dealing with energy consumption on the roads.

Senate voices total satisfaction with summit results

(Continued from page 1)

session was very similar to that demonstrated by the 60-member Lower House of Parliament last week and feelings echoed by other institutions and Jordanian dignitaries.

In addition, the central theme in the speeches made by Senators Jumaa Hamad, Ahmad Al Tarawneh, Hikmat Al-Masri, Walid Salab, Akram Zuaitar, Hazem Nuseibeh, Rashid Ureikat, Barjas Al Hadid, Salem Ibn Najad and Hassan Odeh was hope that Arab leaders would be further successful in their endeavours to follow up and implement the summit's resolutions.

"Had the summit failed in arriving at a united Arab stand on major issues of discussion, the Arab World would have faced a true catastrophe," said Sen. Zuaiter. But the summit's spirit and the objective discussions among the Arab leaders helped "sidestep the catastrophe and failures which were anticipated by our enemies," he said.

Sen. Hamad said the summit's outcome was just the beginning of pan-Arab action and solidarity. "We realise, as the world does, that the Amman summit was just a commencement, a beginning that requires enormous efforts, honesty, hope and trust for the treatment of all residues of inter-Arab rifts," he said. "The great achievement of the Amman summit will remain incomplete unless backed by practical steps to achieve the aspirations of the Arab people."

Sen. Hadid said the success of the summit was inherent in the fact that it paved the way and opened the door to a "new era of joint Arab action, work and solidarity."

"The summit revived the hopes and aspirations in the spirit of every Arab... The meeting has also raised the morale of our people in the occupied Arab territories," said Mr. Hadid.

Sen. Ureikat said the summit had "united the Arab World and

heralded the beginning of the Arab march on the right direction towards meeting the nation's higher interests."

Mr. Masri expressed hope that "God will give King Hussein more strength in the service of his nation and in his efforts to complete his nationalistic mission to achieve the goals of all Arabs through the regaining of Palestine and the Golan Heights and ending the Iran-Iraq war."

Mr. Hadid and others also expressed hope that the Iran-Iraq war would end soon following the unanimous Arab stand on the conflict, and an appeal to the international community to intensify efforts to implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 598.

The resolutions reached by the summit "were strongly welcomed throughout the Arab World," noted Sen. Salah. However, the hopes of all Arabs are pinned on the Arab leaders to implement all resolutions adopted by the summit, Mr. Salah said.

Sen. Salab said he was confident that the results of the summit would crystallise soon and His Majesty "deserves all our support in his march towards realising his nationalistic aspirations."

He urged the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to resume political coordination with Jordan. "I call on the PLO to put its hand in the hand of His Majesty with all sincerity. I hope the PLO has realised now that the only means for supporting the steadfastness of our people in the occupied territories and for regaining this land lies in this coordination," said Mr. Salah.

He also called on all Arab states to implement the 1953 Joint Arab Defence Pact if Iran did not respond to calls for ending the war.

Other resolutions of the summit, including the expression of support for war-torn Lebanon and the decision to clear the way for resumption of diplomatic ties with Egypt, were hailed by Sen. Ureikat.

Syria played key role in hostage release

(Continued from page 1)

appearing Saturday afternoon that "the payment of a ransom contributed to the conclusion of the negotiations with the kidnappers." It furnished no other details.

Mr. Chirac, in a brief speech at the airport before the arrival of the two former hostages, formally denied that any ransom was paid and called the report a "deceitful allegation with no basis."

A militia source in Beirut told Reuters a ransom was paid for the release but could not say how much. Other sources could not confirm that money had changed hands.

Paris has repeatedly said it is opposed to bargaining over kidnap victims, effectively ruling out payment of ransom.

Iran keeps silent about its

backing for the Revolutionary Justice Organisation and other radical groups in Lebanon, whose anti-Western rhetoric mirrors Tehran's.

Before freeing the two, Revolutionary Justice Organisation said it had received assurances that France would meet demands for changes in its Middle East policy and end support for Iraq in its seven-year war with Iran.

Iran has repeatedly denied any direct links to the abductors of foreigners in Lebanon, but it did say it could influence some of the radical hostage-takers.

Syria has repeatedly spoken of its own role in freeing Lebanon hostages, saying it had a hand in the release of at least 16 in the past two years and was ready to help free others.

Unlike the Syrians, Iranian

officials in Lebanon are never seen publicly to be involved with hostage cases.

But security sources and diplomats quoted by Reuter said they believed kidnappers only set their captives free after obtaining Iranian blessing.

"Iran is the master and the gunmen here only carry out orders," one source said.

The diplomats said they suspected a link between the release of Mr. Normandin and Mr. Aquino and efforts by Iran and France to improve relations.

Paris and Tehran cut diplomatic ties in July this year after Vahid Gordji, an interpreter at the Iranian embassy in Paris, refused to face questioning over allegations that he was involved in a series of bombings in Paris in 1986.

Jordan and EEC begin in-depth review of all aspects of cooperation

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan looks to Europe as a partner in the process of development and as an ideal example of a party willing to cooperate with the Kingdom towards the goal of achieving the country's economic and social objectives. University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali said here on Saturday.

He said the working papers to be discussed at the meetings would reflect the experiences of countries in other parts of the world and would help to fuse ideas and information presented by scholars and scientists.

President of Yarmouk University Mohammad Hamdan also spoke at the session, saying that the seminar was designed to focus the light on Jordan-EEC economic and trade relations with a view to further promoting these ties and developing cooperation in energy, finance and politics.

"Jordan, though poor in resources, is open to modern development and is bound to the Arab World while maintaining strong ties with Europe — a situation which serves the interests of all parties," Dr. Hamdan said.

He called on the EEC countries to reduce the trade tariffs and restrictions on Jordan's exports to their markets, thereby promoting Jordan's European exports.

The opening session was attended by Dr. Jawad Al Anani, president of the Royal Scientific Society, which is sponsoring the meeting, senior government officials and EEC officials in Jordan.

The seminar is being held at the Ministry of Higher Education.

British parliamentary team briefed on Palestine

AMMAN (Petra) — A team from the British House of Commons met here on Saturday with Dr. Ahmad Qatanani, under-secretary of the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs, who spoke about the development of the Palestine problem and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The team, which represents the British Liberal Party, heard Dr. Qatanani reiterate Jordan's call for an international conference under United Nations auspices and with the participation of all concerned parties, in addition to the permanent Security Council members.

Dr. Qatanani spoke about Israel's human rights violations in

the occupied Arab territories and its construction of settlements on Arab-owned land.

He also briefed the delegation on the Jordanian government's assistance to the people of the occupied Arab territories through the economic and social development programme designed to enhance the steadfastness of the Arab population in the face of Israel's repressive measures designed to force the Arabs to abandon their homeland.

He said Jordan was providing assistance to the Palestinian refugees in cooperation with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

The British parliamentary delegation later met with Nabil Al Nimer, the Foreign Ministry's secretary general and discussed similar subjects, particularly Jordan's efforts for convening an international conference to achieve peace in the Middle East.

Mr. Nimer briefed the visitors on the outcome of the Amman Arab summit and the current efforts being made to end the Gulf conflict through the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598.

The delegation members expressed their understanding of the region's problems and paid tribute to His Majesty King Hussein for his efforts in seeking peace in the region.

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Myth of invincibility shattered

THE spectacular and courageous glider raid on an Israeli army camp last Wednesday proves that Israeli defences are not impregnable, no matter how sophisticated they are. It also proves that the cycle of violence in the Middle East will not abate as long as the Arab-Israeli conflict remains unresolved. Another striking aspect of this latest daring attack on an Israeli military establishment is the fact that it was carried out by a multi-national Arab team composed of Palestinians, Syrians, Lebanese, and Tunisians. Perhaps there is a message here which purports to say to the Israelis and the world at large that the Arab political solidarity achieved at the Amman Extraordinary Arab summit can also be expressed in armed struggle against Israeli occupation of Arab territories.

There is no doubt that Israel will now upgrade its defences to account for security problems and threats posed by gliders and other devices intended to penetrate Israeli borders. It will surely retaliate and kill many innocent civilians. But as soon as Israel accomplishes these tasks, the Arab fighters will, in due course, devise yet more daring and ingenious methods to prove Israel's vulnerability and to make it pay for its retaliation. The moral of the story is that Israel is not invincible. One does not have to be a military strategist to comprehend that no country, no matter how sophisticated its defences, can remain forever invulnerable. Only months ago, a lone West German pilot flew undetected right into the heart of the Soviet Union. All of the billions that the Soviets had spent to prevent such penetrations could not make even its capital impregnable. If a superpower cannot make itself impenetrable, surely Israel will remain vulnerable to innovative ventures to cross its borders. It is not long before the age of rocketry and sophisticated missiles dawns heavily on the countries of the Middle East. What Israel can do to stop short and medium-range rockets from penetrating its borders remains to be seen. But one thing is sure: Some of these missiles will escape detection and hit their targets, no matter what.

Should Israeli policy-makers and military strategists truly wish to make their country invincible, there is only one way to do this: they must have peace with their neighbours — both governments and peoples — on the basis of justice and respect for national rights. The endless cycle of violence has become the virtual "natural law" in the Middle East since the creation of Israel in our midst. This cycle will surely continue unsated as long as a solution to the Palestinian problem is not achieved. Instead of continually spending all of its time and money on security concerns and beefing up its defences, Israel would be better advised to give greater attention to searching for a just and durable peace with its neighbours.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Proper denunciation

THE night of terror which was created within an Israeli military camp by an Arab resistance fighter should remind the world that the Arabs have more to give than statements of denunciation or condemnation of Israel's actions. This night of terror would be considered as an example of resistance action in all respects. One Arab was killed for six Israeli soldiers and the injury of eight others. If resistance activity is conducted in this manner, inflicting heavy casualties in the ranks of the enemy, the Israeli leaders would be forced to re-examine their plans and their calculations, and would take speedy steps for the solution of the Palestine problem. For the Arabs, this heroic action on the part of the resistance should serve as a prelude for a new dawn; and they should therefore be ready for any Israeli retaliatory action directed against Syria or any other Arab country. It should be noted that the Arab defence pact had been formed to involve all Arab countries in any act of defence of the Arab land in the face of foreign aggression; and therefore, the Arabs should act firmly and should make sure that the Palestinian camps in Lebanon would not remain alone facing the retaliation of the Israeli enemy. Nor should Syria be left alone in the face of aggression. The Arab countries possess vast potentials and should supply the Palestinians and the Lebanese with the necessary means for defending themselves against enemy attacks. The Arabs have masses of arms and ammunition and should therefore send some of them to Lebanon for carrying out resistance activity. The Arabs also have diplomatic ties with other nations and they ought to exploit these relations to explain their position and should ask the U.N. Security Council to issue warnings to Israel against any terrorist activity on the Arabs. Any statements of condemnation on the part of the Arabs in reply to any Israeli terrorist action would not have any meaning. Condemnation of Israel's actions is not a proper reply to aggression.

Al Dustour: Heroic action

THE Israelis were stunned by the heroic action of the resistance men in the northern parts of occupied Palestine, and they have sent out cries demanding retaliation against the Arabs. Amidst this atmosphere, the Israeli leaders are working out plans for a new aggression which could possibly take the form of raids on Palestinian camps inside Lebanon. There is no doubt that Israel's retaliation would be dangerous and wide ranging, reflecting the ill-nature of Zionism which believes in revenge. This reaction would serve as a futile attempt to erase the consequences of the Arab resistance attack which caused so much frustration within the Israeli society and drew feelings of pride within the Arab society. Israel's coming retaliatory action as expected by observers and reported in the news would only lead to a deepening of the hatred and an escalation of the conflict in the Middle East, and would invite counter revenge on the part of the Arabs similar in style to and with the same deadly effect of the resistance action carried out by the lone attacker. Regardless of the form and the volume of Israel's coming revenge, and no matter how barbarous Israel's behaviour might be, the objective of giving a lesson to Israel has been achieved. Israel should realise that what happened Wednesday night in its military camp could happen once again, and that resistance activity would be repeated until it ends its occupation of Arab land and stops its oppression against the Arab population under its rule. The resistance action carried out by a lone attacker on Israel proves once again that the Arab Nation did not and will not kneel before Israel and would never capitulate.

Why the Soviets eye the Gulf

By Mark Bruzonsky and Stephen Green

NUMEROUS U.S. newspaper editorials have pointed to the Reagan administration's well-known fear of the Soviet "evil empire" as a reason for the increasing Americanisation of the war in the Gulf. Others find in the new energetic leadership of Mikhail Gorbachev an explanation for the growing Soviet involvement in the Middle East which has, in turn, aroused greater U.S. involvement in the region. Indeed, the unmistakable signs of new Soviet interest in the region are very clear. The Kremlin seems suddenly eager to play a mediating role in both the Iran-Iraq war and in the broader Arab-Israeli conflict (MEI 312). In the latter instance, Moscow has even taken the first steps in more than 20 years to re-establish diplomatic relations with Israel in order to facilitate such a role. And in the Gulf, it was of course an offer by the Soviets to lease three tankers to Kuwait that led to Reagan's hasty offer of American reflagging in the first place.

Diplomacy and showing the flag, though, are only one aspect of the new Soviet presence. Another is the ballistic missiles, advanced fighter bombers and multiple launch rockets which have arrived in Syria since 1983. For the first time in the military history of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Soviets have supplied at least one Arab army with offensive weapons that begin to offset the overwhelming offensive power given without cost to Israel by America.

The question is why is the USSR moving to expand its influence in the Middle East. trade with the Gulf — in other words plain, legitimate self-interest? The key element in this question of Soviet motivations that has been uniformly missed by American editorial writers, and perhaps by the White House as well, is quite simple: The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, by far the world's largest oil producer, is slowly running out of oil.

Like Western Europe, Japan and the United States, the USSR will soon need to import substantial amounts of fuel to meet its energy requirements, and those of its allies. And like those other buyers, the Soviets are looking to the Gulf as the source for that fuel. The Soviet offer to lease tankers to Kuwait may thus have been primarily motivated by a desire to habituate the countries of the region to the sight of the hammer and sickle on the back end of oil tankers, for there may be hundreds and hundreds more to come.

The first significant signs of Soviet oil reserve depletion began in

1976, when the rate of gain in oil production declined below six per cent for the first time in over a decade. Western observers, primarily the CIA, noticed the decline immediately, and in the first of two very controversial reports, the CIA characterised Soviet goals for oil production levels into the 1980s as "optimistic."

Several months later, the Moscow newspaper *Socialist Industry* appeared to confirm the CIA's projections when it revealed that four of the 12 top Soviet oil producing areas were not meeting their production targets, and that in fact eight of the 12 were barely maintaining output or were already in decline. Western energy analysis, quoted in the respected *Oil and Gas Journal*, concluded that "like the U.S., it seems the Soviet Union has found most of the 'easy oil'." While production of natural gas in the Soviet Union would continue to rise in future years, oil production would begin to decline in the early 1980s, resulting in a reduction of oil exports and the badly needed foreign exchange these bring to the Soviet economy.

In the following year, 1977, the CIA produced an even more pessimistic report on Soviet oil production, projecting that in the 1980s the Soviet Union would become a "substantial" importer of oil. Other Western experts, though, noted that the CIA reports failed to take into consideration the predictable Soviet programmes aimed at energy conservation and development of alternative energy sources in reaching their conclusions. And indeed, Soviet oil production

levels — and exports — in the later 1970s and early 1980s made the CIA's projections seem premature, if not alarmist. Then came 1984, and new shortfalls. Most discouraging of all, the 1984 production decline appeared to be occurring in the youngest and most vital region for Soviet development — the giant fields in Tuymen in western Siberia.

A controversy arose within the Kremlin in 1984, putting the Soviet oil ministry against the ministry of geology and senior Communist Party officials. The oil ministry, contending that the vast majority of western Siberia's future oil discoveries would be small and uneconomical to exploit, and pointing to rapidly increasing costs for oil extraction in recent years, argued strongly for a formal reduction in Soviet oil production goals. When the final production figures were in for 1984, the oil ministry was proved right. The Soviet Union had suffered its first absolute production decline in 40 years. The result was a major push by the Kremlin to make oil production in western Siberia more efficient. Said the Moscow newspaper *Izvestia*: "Tyumen's oil surplus has disappeared and the wells no longer flow without assistance. We must now 'work' the deposits in the full sense of the word." The full significance of this development can be understood when one considers that western Siberia accounts for two-thirds of the total Soviet flow.

Meeting in Moscow in early 1985, the USSR's 27th Communist Party congress agreed to formally reduce the country's oil

production targets for 1990. The oil ministry — and the CIA report ten years earlier — had been vindicated. Then, just a few months later, the Chernobyl catastrophe starkly demonstrated to the Kremlin the hidden costs and dangers of nuclear energy

offensive and defensive arms which, with few exceptions, they have been unwilling to send to the Middle East in the past. Furthermore, these developments are occurring at a time when, a) the governments of the region are facing military and political threat from Iran and are desperately seeking the modern defensive arms with which to defend themselves, and b) given the unreserved commitment of the Reagan administration and the American Congress to Israel, the U.S. government is predictably going to refuse to be the supplier of those arms.

Where does Washington think the Gulf states are going to turn for their arms? Whether the Americans like it or not, the Soviet Union and the Gulf States have a new, strong, growing consonance of interests. It is mutual. It is natural. And as we shall soon see — cultural and political differences notwithstanding — the outcome will be a dramatically increased Soviet presence in the Gulf.

Oil for arms may become the formula for a basic strategic realignment with historic consequences — Middle East International, London.

Mark Bruzonsky is the author of *Security in the Middle East* (Westview Press, October 1987). Stephen Green is the author of *Taking Sides: America's secret relations with a militant Israel* (William Morrow, USA, Faber and Faber, U.K., 1984). His forthcoming book is *Living by the Sword* (Amana Press, USA, Faber and Faber U.K.).

Raid sparks questions, calls for revenge in Israel

By Paul Taylor
Reuter

TEL AVIV — A daring raid by a Palestinian fighter in a hang-glider who killed six Israeli soldiers at an army camp stunned Israelis on Thursday, sparking embarrassed questions about northern border defences and calls for revenge.

Military analysts said Israel was likely to retaliate swiftly, probably with an air raid on Palestinian targets in Lebanon. But they ruled out a major ground operation.

Israeli journalists and members of the public, shocked by the highest death toll in a raid into Israel since 1978, asked how at least two motorised hang-gliders managed to fly over Israel's self-declared "security zone" without being shot down.

Parliamentarian Meir Cohen-Avidor of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud Bloc urged Rabin to order army commanders to enact the toughest policy to halt all terrorist activities, and not to take legal action against soldiers and civilians who try to defend themselves — an apparent reference to Israeli vigilante attacks on Palestinians.

"This means we have to hit the terrorist harder and harder. They should bomb half of Lebanon," said Yehuda Dayan, a Tel Aviv computer engineer.

Rabin appeared to hint at retaliation when he was asked by reporters after the cabinet meeting how Israel would respond to the raid.

"You don't expect me to tell you what Israel will do," he reported. "We have a prolonged war and struggle against terrorists, wherever they are."

"This action was truly characteristic of a suicide attack. With small aircraft, it is hard to identify them at night. Such actions have failed in the past," he said after touring the area.

Military sources said the gliders were detected by at least three military units in the eight km (five mile) wide border buffer zone but Cobra helicopter gunships that scrambled to intercept them failed to make contact.

"It was a flashah," one source said, using an Arabic word for a foul-up that has passed into Israeli slang.

The hours of confusion that followed the 10-minute gunbattle dented the Israeli security forces' reputation for efficiency.

A foreign volunteer worker at a kibbutz (collective farm) miles away was shot and wounded accidentally by para-military border police who mistook him for a Palestinian fighter.

Rabin said the "security zone" Israel established in Lebanon had greatly reduced cross-border attacks. The zone was set up in 1985 when Israel withdrew most of the occupation forces that invaded three years earlier to drive out Palestinian fighters.

The Israeli army says it has killed 200 fighters in the zone in the last year, while losing only half a dozen of its own men. Casualties among the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia, which patrols the zone, have been higher.

Two Palestinian gunmen on foot penetrated Israel's border, guarded by minefields and elec-

Iran arms embargo to dominate superpower summit

By Stephen Jukes
Reuter

BAHRAM — When President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev flip their summit agenda to the section marked Gulf war, one question will dominate debate — can Moscow be persuaded to drop its objections to an Iranian arms embargo?

As Tehran's revolutionary guards ambush ships seemingly at will in the Gulf and Iraqi Mirage pilots fly daily raids against Iranian tankers, diplomats believe a U.N. peace initiative is more bogged down than at any time since its launch in July.

And Moscow, which earlier this year appeared to be establishing a firm diplomatic foothold in the Gulf region, is beginning to incur the disapproval of states such as Kuwait.

Kuwait turned to Moscow a year ago to seek protection for its oil tankers from Iranian attack, but after a short honeymoon, the state-controlled press is accusing Moscow of stalling the U.N. deal and leaning too far towards Tehran.

The Kuwaiti daily Al Rai Al Aam said in an editorial on Thursday: "Given the lack of Soviet desire to decrease tension and its desire for political and strategic parity with the United States, Moscow is standing with Iran to support its war effort and its political movements in the Security Council to abort the (U.N.) resolution."

Iran for its part tars both Washington and Moscow with more or less the same brush — labelling one the Great Satan and the other the Little Satan — and has been widely accused of playing for time to prepare for another ground offensive against Iraq.

Among the five permanent

members of the U.N. Security Council, Britain backs the U.S. drive for an arms embargo, while France and China — since its public declaration it will not sell Silkworm missiles to Iran — are also expected to agree.

But Moscow has consistently argued that U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has not exhausted possibilities for negotiation between Iran and Iraq. He is due to meet an Iranian emissary in New York this week.

Superpower rivalry in the Gulf took a new twist early this year when Moscow sealed a deal with Kuwait to lease its three tankers to carry the emirate's oil under Soviet navy protection.

That in turn prompted the United States to allow Kuwaiti tankers to fly the American flag under escort of American warships. The huge Western naval build-up in the Gulf had begun.

Moscow had already been building up alliances in the Gulf, traditionally a region with close political and military ties to the United States and Britain.

Diplomats said the Soviet Union now has more influence in the Middle East and over the Arab-Israeli dispute, than at any time since its military advisers were expelled from Egypt in 1972.

This year it sought favour with staunchly anti-Communist Saudi Arabia by inviting Oil Minister Hisham Nazer to Moscow, it rescheduled \$3 billion of Egypt's military debt and has steadily built up diplomatic representation in the Gulf.

The drive highlights a Soviet

desire to be involved in the Middle East "peace process" to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict, another question expected to figure on the summit agenda.

The way in for Moscow is through its permanent membership of the U.N. Security Council, which now appears the most likely sponsor of a long-awaited international peace conference on the Middle East.

Diplomats say its lack of relations with Israel is one obstacle but the most formidable remains the divisions within the Israeli government on whether to attend.

Moscow has also been leaning towards Tehran, bolding out the possibility of a deal allowing Iran to export oil and gas through the Caspian Sea which would avoid the Gulf war zone.

"Moscow's ability to talk to both Iran and Iraq puts it in the position of peacemaker," said one diplomat.

But the Soviet Union does appear keen to extricate itself from the nine-year-old guerrilla war in Afghanistan which has led to heavy Soviet casualties and cost it support in the Third World. Washington, in turn, has been embarrassed by U.S. Stinger missiles it supplied to rebels falling into Iranian hands.

U.N.-sponsored indirect talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan are deadlocked over timing of a pull-out of an estimated 115,000 Soviet troops, with Kabul arguing for 16 months and Pakistan — with about three million refugees — locking for eight months.

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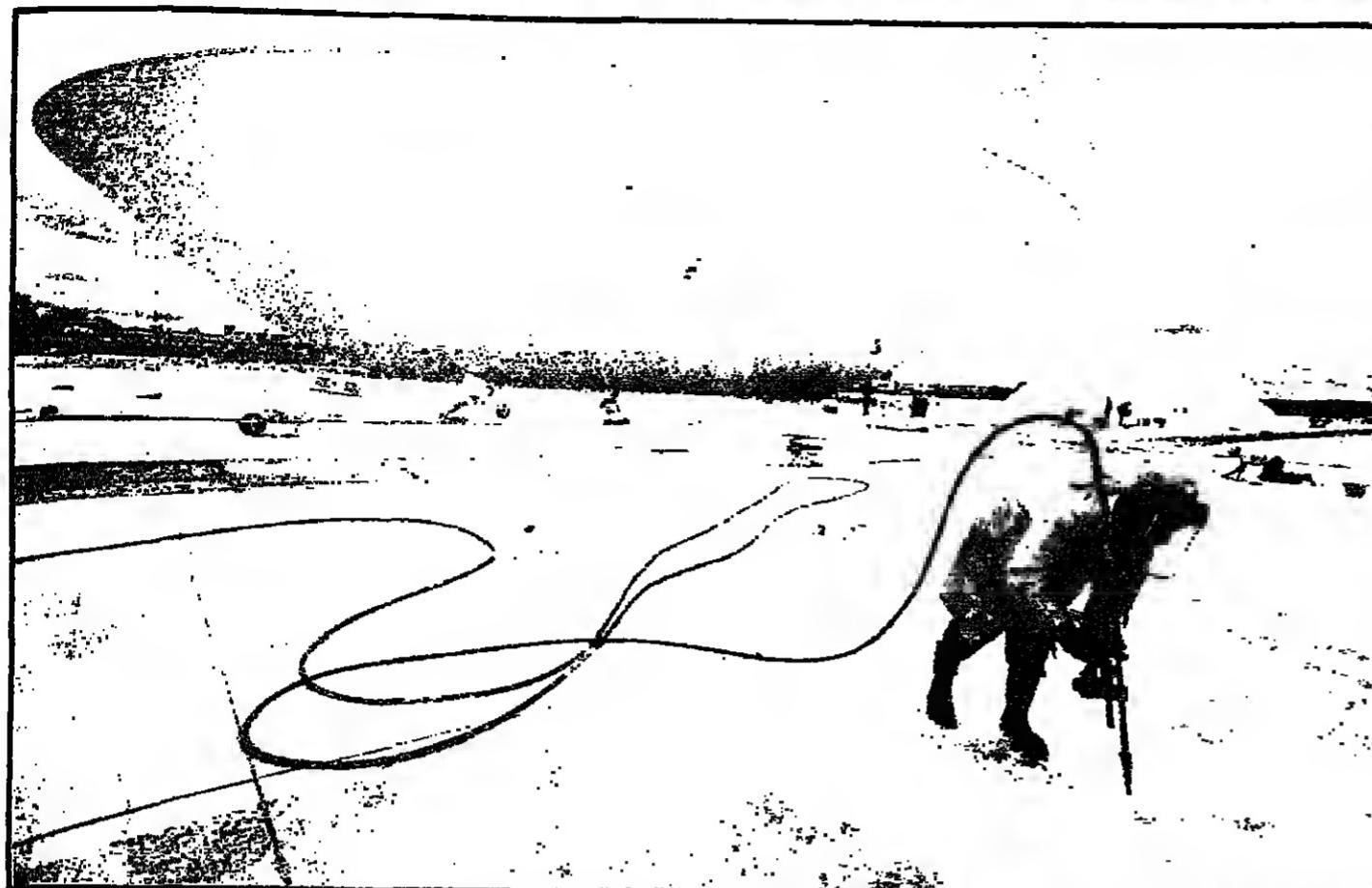
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Workmen refurbish the marble terrace outside the capitol complex in Brasilia, capital city of Brazil. The South American nation moved its seat of government to the newly created city deep in Brazil's interior from Rio de Janeiro not long after construction began in 1957. Now

neighboring Argentina plans to follow suit, with Viedma, a small city in lightly populated Patagonia, as the capital to replace overpopulated Buenos Aires.

Moving seat of government not always a capital idea

By Boris Weintraub
National Geographic

WASHINGTON — Over the next few years, if everything goes according to plan, Argentina will begin to move its capital from Buenos Aires to the virtually unknown city of Viedma. Then, if history is any guide, a number of things will happen:

— There will be significant cost overruns and lengthy delays in construction.

— Government officials, foreign embassies, cultural institutions, and ordinary citizens will resist the move, protesting that the new capital is too far away from anything that makes life worth living.

— The government will move anyway, and critics will then complain that the new capital, the result of careful planning, is too sterile and artificial.

— After 50 or 100 years, everyone will accept Viedma as the capital and point to it with pride as a national symbol. No one will remember what all the fuss was about.

Nations create new capitals for many reasons: Independence, as in the case of the United States; compromise, which is why Australia's capital is Canberra, not Sydney or Melbourne; a desire to open vacant land for settlement, as Brazil did in building Brasilia; a leader's wish to modernize his nation, which is why Peter the Great built St. Petersburg, now Leningrad; and even the need to avoid hurricanes, the reason British Honduras, now Belize, built Belmopan.

Argentine President Raul Alfonsin started his nation April

15, 1986, with a speech designating Viedma and its sister city across the Rio Negro, Carmen de Patagones, as the new capital. Their combined population is about 50,000, far from the 10.7 million — a third of the nation's population — who live in the Buenos Aires metropolitan area.

It wasn't the idea of moving the capital that was so startling. Such a move had been considered since the 19th century, and there is general agreement that Buenos Aires plays far too dominant a role in Argentina's life.

But few expected Alfonsin to choose a site in Patagonia, which has a fourth of the nation's land but only 3 percent of its population.

Nor did anyone expect him to announce that he anticipated such speedy action that the next Argentine president could be inaugurated in Viedma, 495 miles south of Buenos Aires, in 1989.

Argentine legislators have supported Alfonsin. But no one is entirely certain how a debt-racked nation will come up with the estimated \$2 billion it will cost to establish a new Federal District almost that size. Its population was 100,000.

Construction continued even through the years of military rule that followed. Despite protests about the sterility of the central city and the emergence of slums like satellite cities, the Federal District has continued to grow.

The population is now estimated at 1.6 million and is still rising.

In the new United States,

the Founding Fathers fought bitterly about where the capital should be.

The first Congress almost

chose Germantown, Pa., and a

Massachusetts congressman spoke

words that have been echoed by many who have come to Washington, D.C.:

"It is the opinion of all the

Eastern States that the climate of the Potomac is not only unhealthy, but destructive to northern constitutions."

Vast numbers of eastern adventurers have gone to the Southern States, and all have found their graves there."

Alfonsin's speech encouraged Argentines to look for guidance of West Germany's selection of the sleepy university town of Bonn as a capital, rather than

Hattie destroyed three-quarters of the old capital of Belize City in 1961, killing more than 260 people. British Honduras built the new city of Belmopan 40 miles inland. The government moved in 1970, and Belmopan today has about 5,000 residents.

British authorities also were responsible for building New Delhi and making it the capital of their Indian empire, choosing a site that had been home to eight previous capitals over 3,000 years. True to form, the site was chosen in 1911, but not until 1929 did it replace Calcutta as the seat of government.

Canberra, whose isolated site 153 miles from Sydney was selected in 1912 — was called "the world's best-lighted sheep station" — took 15 years to become Australia's capital. A permanent home for its parliament is only now being built.

Capital-creation is a serious act. The Pakistani commission that in 1960 chose the site for what became Islamabad used typically high-flown language to explain itself:

"The capital of a country is not merely another city, it is a leader among cities. It is a symbol of our hopes. It is a mirror of our desires. It is the heart and soul of the nation."

If that's the case, some nations have divided hearts and souls. Bolivia, for example, has an administrative capital at La Paz and a separate legal and judicial capital at Sucre. And South Africa goes it one better: It has a legislative capital at Cape Town, an administrative capital at Pretoria, and a judicial capital at Bloemfontein.

Britons follow royal family into alternative cures

By John Parker
Reuters

LONDON — The attractive young woman led the way into a white room.

"Take your shoes and socks off and lie down," she said, closing the blinds. "Now, just relax."

Then she turned on music that sounded like a waterfall, rubbed powder into her hands and began to massage my feet.

This is reflexology, a so-called "alternative" medical treatment. Scorned by most doctors, alternative medicine is nonetheless growing and becoming more respectable in Britain.

Even Prince Charles, the heir to the throne, has said he uses alternative medicine and both Queen Elizabeth and her mother favour some aspects. More and more Britons are sidesplitting the National Health Service (NHS) to give it a try.

Reflexologists believe organs of the body are mirrored in the feet, and diseases in those organs can be found and cured by foot massage.

"I can tell your liver is not too healthy," said the reflexologist, Karen Benson, pressing a tender spot on a toe.

Benson works at the new Westminster Natural Health Centre, a hospital-deal converted house in an expensive area of London offering about 15 of the more common alternative treatments.

Nobody knows exactly how many alternative treatments are available in Britain today. There are few controls, so there may be as many treatments as there are beliefs about the workings of the human body. They range from the quasi-medical to the seeming indecisiveness.

Prince Charles argues that alternative medicine is good because it is holistic — that is, it tries to treat the whole body. Practitioners give patients more time than doctors do, and patients are encouraged to help themselves to better health.

"By concentrating on smaller and smaller fragments of the body, modern medicine perhaps loses sight of the patient as a whole being," Prince Charles told doctors in 1982.

Since then alternative medicine has grown quickly. A 1986 survey of 28,000 people by the consumer magazine *Which?* found that one in seven had consulted an alternative practitioner in the previous 12 months. Of those who had done so, 82 per cent said they were cured or improved.

In 1983, opening an alternative medicine centre for cancer sufferers in Bristol, England, Prince Charles said alternative medicine represented an invisible aspect of the universe.

"It nevertheless cries out for us to keep our minds as open as possible and not to dismiss it as mere hocus pocus," he said.

For some people, however, the ideas behind the remedies can take some getting used to.

Followers of the Bach Flower Remedies, for instance, believe certain flower petals give off healing vibrations that can help cure negative mental states such as indecisiveness.

Indology, begun a century ago in Hungary, is based on the belief that diseases can be seen in the eyes. Faith healers believe the mind can cure diseases of the body and mind.

Traditional acupuncturists, followers of the ancient Chinese art of sticking needles into people, believe the body's organs have humours, or moods, which respond to stimulation.

Osteopaths and chiropractors claim to cure disease through manipulation, chiefly of the spine. Homeopaths believe a small quantity of a substance that would cause similar symptoms can cure a disease. The list goes on.

These treatments are not usually available on the NHS, and the only insurance policy available covers only a few of the more respectable treatments.

There are no standard prices, but alternative treatments are usually cheaper than private conventional medicine because they use no modern drugs or surgery.

Following Prince Charles's criticisms of the British Medical Association, the Doctors' Union, set

up a working group.

It reported in 1986 that only osteopathy, chiropractic and some forms of acupuncture had any scientific basis, and even they were unscientific in approach. Most alternative treatments were useless, and occasionally dangerous, quackery.

The report said problems in the NHS, such as long waiting lists, had partly caused the drift to alternatives. But the most important cause was change in patients' attitudes.

"People expect instant cures and when they don't get them they go looking elsewhere," professor James Payne, the chairman of the working group, told Reuters.

He said the medical profession would not accept alternative cures until they could be proved, scientifically, to work.

But alternative practitioners ask, how can you measure how a person feels or the link between body and mind?

Joanna Solan, the ex-nurse who began the Westminster Centre, said the medical profession had also, at least partly, missed the point. "It doesn't matter if patients go out and chew grass and feel better, so long as they feel better," she said.

"Anything that alleviates symptoms on a long-term basis, I don't think can be called quackery."

The heart of the sex difference

By Gina Kolata

MEN AND WOMEN are different at heart, literally.

Medical scientists are both perplexed and intrigued by a growing body of evidence that shows differences in the way women and men develop heart disease. The findings suggest there may be important biological distinctions between the sexes in the functioning and development of the heart and cardiovascular system.

The distinctions need to be understood, experts say, because they may provide new insights into the causes and treatment of heart disease in both sexes.

Dr. Antonio Gotto, of the Baylor College of Medicine, in Houston believes there are cellular and biochemical differences in female blood vessels.

"I feel confident that female blood vessels have some inherent protection," he said.

Scientists now believe it may be too simplistic to expect the hormone estrogen alone to explain differences in heart disease.

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"I feel confident that female blood vessels have some inherent protection," he said.

Women's "Their signs and symptoms are not being taken seriously because of the myth that women don't get heart attacks," he said.

The Framingham study is a major source of data on women and heart disease because it follows both men and women throughout their lives, correlating such factors as blood chemistry and lifestyle with the incidence of heart disease.

Women have different symptoms of heart disease than men. Women often have pains on and off for a long time before they have a heart attack; in men, chest pains are more often a sign that a heart attack has begun.

Women who have a heart attack are twice as likely as men to die within 60 days.

Diabetes seems to eliminate the protection accorded women in their earlier years, whereas it seems to have less effect on men.

Contributing to the sense of mystery is the finding that women do only half as well as men in bypass surgery. Although a relatively simple reason is suggested — women have smaller hearts, more difficult to operate on, and they tend to come into the operation older and sicker than men do — not everyone is convinced that this is the whole story.

The aim of the heart researchers is not just to improve the prevention and treatment of heart disease in older women but to learn what protects younger women from heart disease, and perhaps to use the knowledge to help men.

Dr. William Castelli, director of a long-range heart study in Framingham, Massachusetts, bemoaned the lack of attention being given to heart disease in women.

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Lora retains WBC bantamweight crown

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (R) — Unbeaten World Boxing Council (WBC) bantamweight champion Miguel "Happy" Lora, successfully defended his title for the sixth time with a unanimous 12-round decision over Ray Minus on Friday night.

Lora, who raised his record to 28 wins, put Minus on the canvas with a straight right hand in the sixth round and controlled the fight from then on.

Antonio Marino of Venezuela scored the fight 118-110 in favour of Lora. Anselino Escobedo of Mexico scored it 120-115 and Tony Castellano of Las Vegas had it 117-10.

Lora, a native of Monteria, Colombia, who now fights out of Miami, won the title in August 1985 from Mexican Daniel Zaragoza. Minus, the Bahamian and

right hands and won the following two rounds.

The sixth round knockdown of Minus put Lora back in control.

"I was happy with my performance but not the decision," said the 21-year-old Minus of Nassau. "I think I was the master boxer. I knew I had to score twice with two times as many punches against the champion."

"What Ray didn't realise is that I'm a lot different in the ring than I am sparring in the gym," the 26-year-old champion said. "I tell you, this fight was harder than the rest of my title fights. Not because he hurt me, but because his style made me uncomfortable."

Lora controlled the bout through the first three rounds, then Minus began to score with

"And I think I did. I don't think one knockdown should win a fight for a man."

The loss dropped Minus' record to 22-4-1.

As for the victory, Lora sees it as the springboard to a bout to unify a bantamweight title with WBA champion Wilfredo Vazquez, whom Lora has previously beaten.

Liverpool delivers Venables their 1st crash

LONDON (R) — Liverpool dashed Terry Venables' hopes of a victorious return to English soccer when they beat his 10-man Tottenham team 2-0 on Saturday to move five points clear of Arsenal at the top of the First Division.

Midfielder Steve McMahon made the decisive breakthrough in a high-speed game when he scored after 62 minutes. Craig Johnston added a second 10 minutes from time.

The result left Tottenham's

biggest crowd of the season, 47,500, with little to celebrate apart from the unexpected defeat of their north London rivals Arsenal who were beaten 2-0 at Watford.

But Arsenal stayed second behind Liverpool, who have a game in hand, thanks to the failures of all the challengers in the chasing pack.

Third-placed Queen's Park Rangers were beaten 3-1 at struggling Sheffield Wednesday, fourth-placed Nottingham

Forest's fixture against Luton was postponed because of fog. Everton drew 0-0 at home with Oxford and Chelsea were held to a 1-1 draw by Wimbledon.

Tottenham, under Venables' control for the first time since he was appointed as David Pleat's successor in the manager's office, were reduced to 10 men when England midfielder Steve Hodge was sent off in the 17th minute.

Hodge was dismissed by referee Ian Barrett for elbowing Irish International midfielder Ray Houghton in the face.

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Swiss skiers seek fresh records

MILAN, Italy (AP) — Switzerland, proud of recent triumphs and eager still for glory, is chasing after more Alpine skiing records in the upcoming Olympic season.

Pirmin Zurbriggen, the 24-year-old all-rounder from Saas-Almagell who captured four World Cup titles last season and four medals in the 1987 world championships at Crans Montana, is in the running for his third World Cup overall success and for an unprecedented four gold medals at the Olympic Games in Calgary, Canada, in February.

Michela Figini, the youngest Olympic champion in Sarajevo in 1984, can become the first skier ever to win two Olympic gold medals in the same event — the downhill — within four years.

Her teammate Maria Walliser, who beat Zurbriggen with four medals at Crans Montana, could take her third consecutive World Cup overall title and a triple gold in Calgary.

A record of three Olympic golds was set by Austrian Toni Sailer and Frenchman Jean Claude Killy in 1956 and 1968, respectively.

Zurbriggen, and possibly Walliser, can do better taking advantage of two new Olympic disciplines — the super-G and the combined — which have raised the number of possible Olympic Alpine golds to five.

Zurbriggen, a shy, determined athlete, did not shake off the label of favourite as he got ready for the Italian resort of Sestriere, where the opening race of the men's World Cup is scheduled for Friday.

"I am going to take one race after another and ski aggressively, as I did last season. I am considering the future with a strong serenity and I will be

happy with any Olympic medal," he said.

He added that his teammates Peter Mueller and Joel Gaspoz, Austrian-born Marc Girardelli of Luxembourg, West German Markus Wasmeier and slalom veterans Bojan Krizaj of Yugoslavia and Ingemar Stenmark of Sweden looked like the toughest rivals.

Mueller, who beat out Zurbriggen for the world downhill title in this year's World Championships, called preparing for the Olympic race "my main goal of the season."

He led opponents by nearly two seconds in a pre-Olympic event in Canada earlier this year.

"I want to win a race as soon as I can this season to prove that I am already at the top and that my materials (skis and boots) are good."

Gaspoz, 25, considered the best giant slalom specialist of the past two seasons even though he won no important title, is anxious to dispel the reputation of being a loser in big events.

Supervising Switzerland's try for glory once more is Karl Frehsner, a coach born in Austria.

Frehnsner, known for his stern methods and his longing for perfection, took the Swiss team to Argentina this summer, when it is winter there.

"Summer training in winter

UEFA lifts ban against Apoel Nicosia

ZURICH (R) — The European Football Union (UEFA) has lifted a ban on Cyprus First Division side Apoel Nicosia appearing in European club competition following the team's failure to show up for a champions' cup tie last year. UEFA said in a news release it had granted Apoel's request for leniency and would allow the club to participate in the next club competition for which they qualified. The Cypriot side were banned for two seasons and fined 4,000 Swiss francs (\$2,500) after failing to turn up for a European Cup second-round first leg match against Besiktasa Istanbul in Oct. 1986. Apoel withdrew after apparent pressure from the Cypriot government which has had no diplomatic relations with Turkey since 1974 when Ankara's military intervention divided the island.

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Marseille crushes Bordeaux

PARIS (R) — Marseille beat Bordeaux 1-0 at home on Friday night after last year's league and cup winners conceded an own goal in the final minute. Bordeaux midfielder Dominique Bijotat was the culprit when a corner bounced off his chest into the goal. The result moves Marseille from seventh to fifth place in the First Division. Bordeaux stay second behind Monaco. Other First Division matches will be played on Saturday.

UEFA's general secretary to retire

BERNE (R) — The European Football Union's (UEFA) general secretary Hans Bangerter is retiring at the end of 1988. UEFA said on Friday, Bangerter, 64, joined UEFA as general secretary 29 years ago after a seven-year spell as assistant secretary with the International Football Federation (FIFA).

Injury forces ex Cosmos star to quit

BIRMINGHAM, England (AP) — England soccer international Steve Hunt, who played alongside Brazilian star Pele and West Germany's Franz Beckenbauer in the successful New York Cosmos side of the 1970s, was advised Friday to quit the game because of a knee injury. The 31-year-old midfielder, who has been playing for Aston Villa in the English Second Division, injured his right knee six weeks ago and has been advised by a specialist to give up playing. Hunt, who also began his career with Villa in 1974, left English soccer to find fame with the Cosmos, before returning in 1978.

Rain forces delay of motorcycle race

MACAO (AP) — A severe rainstorm washed out the 21st Macao Motorcycle Grand Prix Saturday, forcing organisers to postpone the race and other events until Monday. Officials said they expected strong winds to dry the 3.8 miles (6.1 kilometres) Guia Street Circuit in time for Sunday's 34rd Macao Grand Prix, designated as the Formula Three World Cup. But the rain, triggered by Typhoon Nina as it drifted to the southwest of this coastal Portuguese enclave, forced cancellation of a record round of Formula Three timed practice. The practice had been postponed until Saturday after it was rained out on Friday. The cancellation of the Formula Three practice meant positions on the starting grid of the World Cup were determined by only one round of practice which occurred on Thursday.

New technical rules on Alpine skiing

SESTRIERE, Italy (AP) — Technical rules and the point system regulating the World Cup of Alpine skiing will be discussed at the 1988 meeting of the International Ski Federation (FIS) in Istanbul, but president Marc Holder said "no revolution is in sight." "Only minor changes are in the plans," the president told a news conference in this Italian resort Friday night. Erich Demetz, president of the World Cup Organisation, disclosed that the 1988-89 competition will begin in France while the following edition will take off in the United States and Canada. Demetz also said that fewer races, concentrated over the weekends, will be scheduled in the next edition of the cup and that late slalom heats, on floodlit courses, would be experimented with for the first time in Canada next March.

Norman advances in Australian Open

MELBOURNE (R) — Australian Greg Norman, opened up a virtually unassailable seven-stroke lead by firing a second successive six-under-par 66 in the third round of the Australian Open golf tournament on Saturday. The former British Open champion is set to finish a disappointing year with a fine victory and could also break a 16-year-old record. The biggest winning margin in the tournament was set in 1971 when Jack Nicklaus won by eight shots from Bruce Crampton.

Strasbourg to host European Cup final

BERNE (R) — The French city of Strasbourg will host next year's European Cup-Winners' Cup final on May 11. The European Football Union (UEFA) said on Friday awarded Stuttgart, West Germany, the right to stage the champions cup final on May 4. The two-leg UEFA Cup final has been scheduled for May 4 and 18.

Pakistani cricketers crush British

LAHORE, Pakistan (R) — Pakistan beat England by an innings and 87 runs in the first test match on Saturday, a crushing victory marred by controversial umpiring. England were spun out in their second innings for 130 soon after lunch on the fourth day, equaling their lowest ever score against Pakistan. They were dismissed for the same amount at the Oval in 1954. England resumed on Saturday at 47 for four, still 170 runs behind Pakistan's first innings of 392, and man-of-the-match Abdul Qadir dashed their slender hopes of saving the game with three more wickets in the pre-lunch session.

S. Australia flounders Kiwis' onslaught

ADELAIDE (R) — South Australia were struggling on 164 for five at tea on the second day of their cricket match against New Zealand after a four-wicket onslaught by spinner John Bracewell. South Australia were trailing New Zealand's first innings score of 360 by 196 runs, with not out batsmen David Hookes on 72 and Don O'Connor on three. Bracewell was brought into the attack shortly before lunch and captured the wicket of opener Andrew Hilditch in his third over. Hilditch was caught by Richard Hadlee at first slip for 34. Bracewell went on to claim three more scalps in the afternoon.

Benfica fires Danish trainer

LISBON (R) — Benfica have sacked their Danish trainer Ebbe Skovdahl because of the team's disappointing results in the Portuguese League championship, club president Joao Santos said on Saturday. Skovdahl, who joined this season to replace English trainer John Mortimore, was asked to leave after Benfica's 2-2 draw on Friday with Farense, who are in 17th place. "We detected a series of deficiencies and there was nothing else to do but to dismiss him," Santos said. Benfica, last season's champions, are in second place in the First Division with 16 points from 12 games, trailing European Cup holders Porto who have 19 points from 11 matches. Skovdahl is not accompanying Benfica to Saudi Arabia for a friendly this weekend, club sources said. The team will be led by assistant trainer Antonio Oliveira.

Make friends with OLD PARR Best De Luxe

Scotch Whisky

Old Parr

Make friends with OLD PARR Best De Luxe

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Scotch Whisky

Economy

OAPEC seeks increased cooperation with EEC

KUWAIT (AP) — Oil ministers of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) on Saturday advised the OAPEC chief to pursue contacts with the European Economic Community (EEC) to "upgrade technical cooperation."

Without elaborating, a statement at the conclusion of the bi-annual meeting of the 10-nation group urged this cooperation "to further serving interest of member states of the two blocs."

OAPEC groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Iraq, Syria, Algeria, Libya and Tunisia.

The five first countries are members of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) alliance which is seeking a trade accord with the EEC that would facilitate entry of Gulf petrochemical products into European markets.

Earlier, a conference source said that the OAPEC oil ministers were expected to appraise the prospects of cooperation between the organisation and the EEC following the encouraging attitude by EEC foreign ministers who decided last week in Brussels that the situation is politically ripe for concluding an agreement with the GCC countries.

Current OAPEC chief is Abdul Aziz Al Wattari of Iraq, the assistant secretary-general who was named acting secretary-general following the resignation last September of Ali Atiqa.

The final statement at the conclusion of OAPEC's one-day meeting requested Mr. Wattari to continue performing the task but stopped short of confirming him in the post that Mr. Atiqa had.

The statement expressed gratitude to Mr. Atiqa who resigned after the organisation decided at its earlier conference this year to cut the budget.

The meeting endorsed a budget of about 1.5 million Kuwaiti dinars (\$5.3 million), as compared to an earlier budget of 2.3 million dinars (\$8 million).

The ministers appealed to member states to settle overdue arrears.

There was no reference to the reinstatement of Egypt as 11th member of OAPEC.

The meeting had begun as Iraq reiterated its demand for a petroleum production quota equal to

that of the EEC, which would facilitate entry of Gulf petrochemical products into European markets.

The Iraqis said they would push this demand when the larger Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) gathers in Vienna on Dec. 9.

Swiss reject Yamani bid to boost stake in watch firm

GENEVA (AP) — A bid by former Saudi oil minister, Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, to gain a controlling stake in a Geneva maker of prestige watches has been rejected, local authorities said Friday.

Sheikh Yamani had been negotiating with the Swiss city's authorities for about a year to increase his reported minority share in Vacheron et Constantin watchmakers. Founded in 1755, the company is said to be worth more than 5 million Swiss francs (\$3.6 million).

Geneva's department of public economy turned down Sheikh Yamani's plan because of laws limiting the amount of land foreigners can buy in Switzerland. More than a third of the company's assets are in real estate, department official, Mr. Robert Hensler, said.

A foreign company specialising in watches might have been granted a waiver, he added.

Mr. Jacques Ketteler, majority shareholder in Vacheron et Constantin, said last year that Sheikh Yamani had bought a minority stake.

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1987

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Fletcher Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The conditions which have been surrounding you will, in a way, hold you back. You will be changing rather rapidly, so be prepared for this. You will have less tendency to delay your actions than usual.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Handling out-of-town matters should be your first priority, but don't neglect other duties. Your judgement is particularly fine.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Find a quiet place where you can think and decide on what is really important to you. Listen to the advice of a trusted adviser.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Trust in your friends to give you the support you need. Enjoy a happy family dinner tonight and feel content.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) This is a good day to gain the support of your superiors on a new project. Take the time to handle a public duty you like.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get out early and meet some new people who can assist you greatly in the future. Plan out the details of an upcoming trip tonight.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Now is the time to get your home in order and make all necessary repairs. You'll find a way to create harmony with your mate.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A talented associate can show you some shortcuts which will make your job much easier. Settle a dispute with a good friend.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Step back and consider your financial situation; you may see there is an easy way to improve it. Get plenty of rest this evening.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Your perception is excellent right now, but don't rely on your first impressions completely. Let your mate know what you want.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You are in a better position than ever to be successful. You have been looking for a break out of the doldrums you need for a new and profitable business project.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) This is a wonderful time for you socially. Use your charm to calm down an angry friend. Be sure you drive with the utmost care.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get the backing of an important superior for a new project. Be alert to situations which are developing around you this evening.

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Sunday's Puzzle Solved:

1. Orbit point	2. Parades	3. Magazine	4. Scheme	5. Gey	6. Indigo	7. Swedish plant	8. Portuguese	9. Solitary	10. Other sign	11. Orbital point	12. Acress	13. Sophia	14. Rabbit trap	15. Long-legged bird	16. Examination	17. Puzzles	18. Spread	19. Horse color	20. Sea snail	21. Oriental gumshoe	22. Ind. city	23. Wine center	24. Mine Ind	25. Mine Ind	26. Ghee	27. Spread	28. Horse color	29. Sea snail	30. Oriental gumshoe	31. Ind. city	32. Wine center	33. Chamomile	34. Religous image	35. Riding and roping show	36. Competitor	37. Tumble down	38. Chamomile	39. Religious image	40. Riding and roping show	41. Competitor	42. Tumble down	43. Gathered leaves	44. Ind. city	45. Wine center	46. So long	47. Ind. city	48. Ind. city	49. Dear	50. Maka below
1. Malacial tavers	2. Handle	3. Buddies	4. Seed cover	5. Observed	6. Black	7. Coil trap	8. Sharp tasting	9. External	10. External	11. Nearest sun	12. Fiber plant	13. Acress	14. Rabbit trap	15. Long-legged bird	16. Examination	17. Puzzles	18. Spread	19. Horse color	20. Sea snail	21. Oriental gumshoe	22. Ind. city	23. Wine center	24. Mine Ind	25. Mine Ind	26. Ghee	27. Spread	28. Horse color	29. Sea snail	30. Oriental gumshoe	31. Ind. city	32. Wine center	33. Chamomile	34. Religous image	35. Riding and roping show	36. Competitor	37. Tumble down	38. Chamomile	39. Religious image	40. Riding and roping show	41. Competitor	42. Tumble down	43. Gathered leaves	44. Ind. city	45. Wine center	46. So long	47. Ind. city	48. Ind. city	49. Dear	50. Maka below
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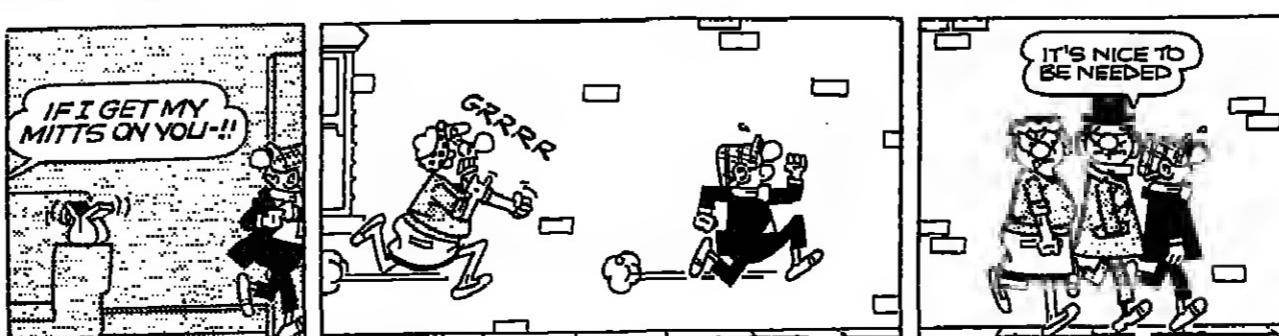
Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (T.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, Nov. 21, '87 and ending Wednesday, Nov. 25, '87. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	—	—	—	—	1.000
Petra Bank	6400	12920	2.000	2.120	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	2050	3772	1.860	1.840	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	4941	8076	1.680	1.630	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	1250	1598	1.300	1.270	1.000
Housing Bank	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	4264	89388	23.500	20.900	5.000
Cairo Arman Bank	7984	137641	17.650	16.900	5.000
Bank of Jordan	130	15600	119.000	120.000	10.000
Arab Bank	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan National Bank	13728	34924	2.560	2.540	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	24400	32328	1.050	1.100	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	76370	98754	1.780	1.780	1.000
Finance and Credit Corporation	15508	9999	0.660	0.640	1.000
National Financial Investments	900	1530	1.780	1.650	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	7069	5073	0.720	0.710	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan					

South African Jumbo crashes with 159 on board

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A South African Boeing 747 was lost over the Indian Ocean on a flight from Taiwan on Saturday. President P.W. Botha said it apparently went down in the sea and the fate of 159 people aboard was unknown.

The last word of the aircraft was a radio message from the pilot as it approached the island of Mauritius, saying there was smoke in the cockpit.

Planes and ships from Mauritius, France's Indian Ocean island of Réunion and a U.S. aircraft base on Diego Garcia launched a big search operation.

At one point on Saturday morning, the crew of a French Transair military plane spotted what they thought was wreckage from the Boeing, but officials on Réunion said it turned out to be something else.

The authorities on Réunion said the search for any trace of the aircraft was still going on and "it appears that the aircraft crashed into the sea."

In Cape Town, President Botha issued a statement of his government's concern and promised relatives of those aboard that they would be informed as soon as anything was known.

The plane was flying from Taipei to Mauritius and Johannesburg with 140 passengers and 19 crew, according to a South African Airways spokesman.

He declined to give the

nationalities of the people on the plane.

Japanese diplomatic sources said between 42 and 49 of the passengers were Japanese, most of them seamen on their way to Cape Town where they were to join fishing trawlers.

The Japanese passengers also included a martial arts fighter known as the "great kabuki" who was due to fight in a wrestling match in Durban Saturday evening.

One of the passengers' relatives at Jan Smuts Airport, Sherry Chen, who had come to meet her Taiwanese father and seven-year-old daughter who were on the plane, broke down when she heard the aircraft was missing.

She said she had phoned earlier and had been told only that the airliner was delayed.

"Just now I was told the airplane was missing. I can't believe it. I don't know what to say. I just feel terrible," she said.

The Taipei-Mauritius route is about 8,000-kilometres, the longest flown by South African Airways.

South Africa's worst air disaster before the present one occurred on April 20, 1968, when a Boeing 707 crashed in Windhoek, Namibia (South West Africa), killing 122 people. There were six survivors.

U.K., Spain fail to agree on use of Gibraltar airport

MADRID (R) — Spain and Britain, resuming negotiations on Saturday, have failed in a first round of talks to agree on joint use of Gibraltar airport and unblock West European plans for cheaper air fares.

"I'd rather have no agreement than a bad agreement," Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordóñez told reporters after three hours of talks on Friday with British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe.

British officials said although talks on the complex dispute would resume later there was still substantial disagreement to settle before Howe flies home.

Ortega calls for continued defence despite peace efforts

MANAGUA (R) — Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega has urged continued military defence of the Sandinista revolution while his government pursued peace under a regional agreement for ending Central America's conflicts.

"We want peace, but it doesn't depend only on us," Mr. Ortega told several thousand troops in a rally in a Managua square.

"There are those who are working to make war," Mr. Ortega said in a reference to the Reagan administration, seen by Nicaragua as the main obstacle to peace because of its support for the anti-government contra rebels.

Among the arrested were Mirza Golam Hafiz, a former speaker of parliament, and Zillur Rahman, an opposition legislator.

The government imposed a news ban on Saturday.

"The law of the land requires that your reporting should be one-sided," Information Minister Anwar Zahid told a news briefing.

"So don't let it pass through anyone's mind, even for an instant, to lay down their arms.

News reports "cannot be balanced," he said.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
©1987 Theatre Made Services, Inc.

SMALL PRECAUTION, LARGE GAIN

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♦ J 54
♦ A 75 4
♦ A 75
♦ 8 6 4

WEST
♦ 8 8
7 K 52
♦ J 9 8 6
♦ Q 9 3

SOUTH
♦ A K Q 10 7
♦ 9
♦ K Q 4 2
♦ A K 2

The bidding:

South West North East
2 ♦ Pass 3 NT Pass
3 ♦ Pass 4 ♦ Pass
4 NT Pass 5 ♦ Pass
5 NT Pass 6 ♦ Pass
6 ♦ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Nine of ♦

There is a sound principle of card play that is often observed more in the breach. It is: Whenever possible, make at least one of the opponents commit himself before you have to play a key card. Here's how it works.

South's bid of five no trump did more than ask for kings. It confirmed that his side possessed all

the aces, and it gave North the option of bidding a grand slam if he felt he had extra values. When North merely showed no kings, South contented himself with a small slam.

West led the nine of spades and declarer's problem was simple—he had to hold his losers in the minor suits to one. If the diamonds were to split 3-3, life would be easy, but the odds favored a 4-2 break.

Declarer's technique was faultless. He won the opening lead in hand and drew a second round of trumps. Next, he cashed the king of diamonds, crossed to the ace, then led a diamond toward his hand. East had no recourse. If he used his trump to ruff, declarer would follow with his low diamond and later discard dummy's club loser on the queen of diamonds. If he did not ruff, the queen of diamonds would win and declarer would ruff his remaining diamond with the jack of trumps. Either way, the defenders would score just one trick and the slam would be home.

Remember this situation. It crops up in a number of disguises.

The common theme is that if a defender ruffs, he wastes his trump "on air."

Giant waves kill 581 in Philippines

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — Opposition leader Joshua Nkomo on Saturday condemned the massacre of 16 white missionaries and their children, allegedly by armed rebels who fought for him in Zimbabwe's independence war.

"This type of action could only have been carried out by the enemies of our people and our country," he said in a message from London to the Chronicle newspaper in the Matabeleland provincial capital of Bulawayo.

Mr. Nkomo, on a private visit to England when the whites were killed at two mission farms south east of Bulawayo this week, said he believed the killers sought to wreck unity talks he was holding with Prime Minister Robert Mugabe aimed at merging the country's two main political parties.

"...The people who did these things want to divide our people because each time we are about to finalise unity talks something like this happens," he said.

Nkomo condemns killing of white missionaries

In Lusaka, the capital of Zambia, the guerrilla-backed African National Congress of South Africa blamed the massacre on Pretoria's policy of what it called "aggression and terrorism" in southern Africa.

The Herald newspaper, published in Harare by the state-controlled Mass Media Trust, said in an editorial that while Pretoria's white dominated government retains its policy of apartheid or racial separation, "such dastardly and bloody killings will continue to claim victims among people of all races" in the region.

"This week's killings are aimed at demonstrating that the government cannot protect the white community," the editorial said.

Home Affairs Minister Enos Nkala on Saturday visited the two farms, a Christian commune called Community For Reconciliation, where the victims, including seven women and five children, were axed to death before the gunmen set fire to their homes.

COLUMNS 7 & 8

Sierra Leone in darkest hour, literally

FREETOWN (R) — Two years after General Joseph Momoh took over as president, the West African state of Sierra Leone is going through its darkest hour — literally. In the past four months the city's half million population has had electricity on average for only 20 hours per month while some districts have had no electricity for six months. Only the candle makers are happy. The government has spent millions of dollars maintaining ageing generators, which Sierra Leoneans hope may be repaired in the next few weeks thanks to a \$1.3-million grant from West Germany, which has also promised to send experts. The once pleasant seaside city, built on a series of lush hills and made famous by novelist Graham Greene in the Heart of the Matter, has been plunged into the heart of darkness, as one diplomat put it. A shortage of petrol for tanker lorries has led to rationing of drinking water. Industry is grinding to a halt and anger and frustration are evident in all sectors of society. "We live in a very sick country," the owner of a deserted restaurant said. He said the former British colony's economic slide began when it played host to an Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit in 1980. Then-President Siaka Stevens spent \$200 million on lavish installations including two luxury hotels, 60 villas for heads of state and, ironically, street lighting.

Victorian painting breaks 2 records

LONDON (AP) — A picture by Dante Gabriel Rossetti called Proserpine was sold in London for £1.43 million (\$2.58 million), breaking world records for the work of the pre-Raphaelite artist and for any Victorian painter. "We expected a top price of around £600,000 (about \$1 million)," said William Hanham, spokesman for auctioneers Christie's, after the picture was bought by London dealer Christopher Gibbs against strong bidding from other British dealers in Victorian paintings. The previous record for a Rossetti was \$382,950 (then £185,000) in New York in 1981 for another mythological portrait, and for any Victorian artist, \$1,265,000 (then £983,000) in New York in 1985 for a Harem scene by Frederick Lewis. "Taste has changed so much that in the 1920s, it was difficult even to give such paintings away," Hanham said. The new record painting depicts Jane Morris, wife of artist-craftsman William Morris, as the Roman mythical figure carried off to Hades to be the bride of Pluto. She could not escape because she had eaten a pomegranate seed there. The picture was sold by Carol Spiers, who received it in bequest from Manchester artist L.S. Lowry, who died in 1976. Rossetti, who died in 1882 belonged briefly to a group of artists who called themselves the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood and painted in fine detail subjects they considered serious and symbolic.

Contents of Mona Lisa villa sold

FLORENCE, Italy (AP) — Sales of Renaissance and 18th-century artworks from a villa where Leonardo Da Vinci's Mona Lisa is believed to have lived sold for some 1 billion lire (\$800,000) at an auction. Italian news agencies reported. The faintly smiling woman in the "Mona Lisa" painting, which now hangs in the Louvre in Paris, is believed to have been a member of the Gherardini family, former owners of the Villa Vignamaggio. Artworks from the villa sold at the Pitti auction house in Florence included depictions of the Madonna by Renaissance painters Michele Di Ridolfo Gherlandaio and Domenico Di Pace, four 18th century oil paintings and a pair of 18th century bronze angels. Centuries after the villa passed from the Gherardini, a family of Florentine merchants, it became the property of writer Bino Samminiatelli, who died in 1984. His heirs put the artworks and furnishings up for sale.

Authenticity of 8 Rembrandts questioned

NEW YORK (AP) — A Rembrandt research project is questioning the authenticity of eight paintings in Britain attributed to the artist, sharply lowering their value, the December issue of Artnews magazine reports. The works cited by the authoritative Rembrandt research effort include Landscape With Coach in the Wallace Collection and seven works in the National Gallery's Rembrandt section. "The committee is giving us a much leaner Rembrandt than we have had in the past. The number of paintings it will accept as his is expected to total 350, half the number one scholar attributed to him early this century," said the writer of the Artnews story, the magazine's editor-at-large Sylvia Hochfield. "The people I feel sorry for are those English and American families, a large part of whose family fortunes are invested in a Rembrandt which is going to turn out to be somebody else," John Ingamells, director of the Wallace Collection, said in the Artnews statement. The statement noted that Rembrandt shared a studio in his early working years with another painter and that the two worked so closely together that collectors at the time described certain works as being by either painter. One work that may suffer shortly because of the panel's inquiries is Portrait of a Bearded Man Standing in an Archway, in which the artist is shown in a studio.

Unless one of the 23 presidential candidates wins more than 50 per cent of the popular vote, a two-man run-off will take place in late December.

Conservative candidate Lamarini Honourat, not considered a front-runner, stepped down on Friday, accusing the CEP of favouritism towards left-wing candidates. He urged his followers to abstain from voting.

A truck carrying ballot papers to Haiti's third city, Gonaïves, was blocked by unidentified assailants. Provisional Electoral Council (CEP) treasurer Alain Roncourt said. He had no further details.

He said 90 per cent of the ballots had gone out for the elections on Sunday but officials conceded they were having problems in organising the vote in Haiti, where pre-election violence had left more than a dozen people dead.

"We have many technical difficulties," said the president of the CEP, Ernst Mirville.

The cities of Gonaïves and Hinche and some rural areas have not yet received ballot papers, officials of the independent nine-man CEP told a news conference.

Citizens have called local radio stations complaining that the CEP refused to register them without giving reasons.

People have been seen distributing voting cards to minors without authorisation, witnesses told Reuters.

Unidentified assailants have also been reported to have burnt down electoral offices, destroying documents and equipment.

Haiti is to hold its first free elections in 30 years on Sunday. The country was ruled with an iron grip by "Papa Doc" Francois Duvalier and later by his son "Baby Doc" Jean-Claude from 1957 until Baby Doc's ousting in February 1986.

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By leading us to believe that they were prepared to resolve the situation, they have impaired their opportunity to put their case before the people of the world," the statement said. "They are not helping their position."

A major stumbling block all along has been that the Cubans cannot present a unified front in negotiations, Mr. Stewart said.

"There is no one who speaks for the detainees as a group," he said. "I don't see an end in sight right now."

In Louisiana, language has complicated negotiations. Friday night, Oakdale inmates paraded as hand-painted banner reading, "U.S. government please allow us to speak with someone we can trust who understands our language." Mr. Stewart said.

The whole prison administration feels the negotiation process works best when left in the hands of professionals," Mr. Stewart said.

Assailants block shipment of ballots for Haitian elections

PORT-AU-PRINCE (R) — A shipment of ballots for Haiti's first free elections in 30 years was blocked by unknown assailants and Haitians reported other election-related attacks and registration irregularities.

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Conservative candidate Lamarini Honourat, not considered a front-runner, stepped down on Friday, accusing the CEP of favouritism towards left-wing candidates. He urged his followers to abstain from voting.

By leading us to believe that they were prepared to resolve the situation, they have impaired their opportunity to put their case before the people of the world," the statement said. "They are not helping their position."

A major stumbling block all along has been that the Cubans cannot present a unified front in negotiations, Mr. Stewart said.

"There is no one who speaks for the detainees as a group," he said. "I don't see an end in sight right now."

In Louisiana, language has complicated negotiations. Friday night, Oakdale inmates paraded as hand-painted banner reading, "U.S. government please allow us to speak with someone we can trust who understands our language." Mr. Stewart said.

The whole prison administration feels the negotiation process works best when left in the hands of professionals," Mr. Stewart said.

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